FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 163 *22 August 1978*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

FAO Session Concludes by Attacking Protectionism 1/A5

ARGENTINA

Army Chief Viola Optimistic on Negotiations With Chile 1/A6
Rojas Warning 1/A6
Negotiations Still Underway 1/A6
LA PRENSA Editorial [20 Aug] 1/A6
Need for Political Parties, Other Organizations Urged 1/A8

BOLIVIA

Pereda Presents Democratization Views Before Topater 1/A9
Student Shot During Demonstration Supporting Strike 1/A9
University Students End Hunger Strike 1/A9
Head of National Liberation Alliance Criticizes Government 1/A9

BRAZIL

Coffee Exports Reopen; Frost Damage Set at 34 Percent 1/A10
U.S. Fishing Boat Seized for Illegal Operations 1/A10
EM TEMPO Office in Belo Horizonte Bombed 1/A10
Brazil, Bahamas Establish Diplomatic Relations 1/A10

CHILE

General Brady Denies He Will Succeed Pinochet [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL 18 Aug] 1/A11
President Pinochet Interviewed by Madrid Paper [EL PAIS 13 Aug] 1/A11
Head of Beagle Negotiating Team Expects Resumption 1/B4
Ministry Officials Begin Dialog on Mine Dispute 1/B5
Briefs: Admiral Meroin to Peru; Navy Incorporates Spanish Airplanes; Industrial Production Increase 1/B6

COLOMBIA

Kidnaped U.S. Citizen Still Held by FARC [EL SIGLO 15 Aug] 1/B7
Exchange Proposal Reported 1/B7
Prisoner Exchange Unconfirmed 1/B7
Colombia To Host Coffee Summit, Examine Market Situation 1/B7
Ivory Coast To Participate 1/B8
Unity of Trade Union Movement Threatened by UTC Leaders 1/B8

ECUADOR

Electoral Court Voids Votes of 54 Quito Precincts 1/B9
Minister Releases Regulations for Runoff Elections 1/B9
Briefs: Foreign Debt 1/B9

PERU

Peruvian Government Places Mines Under Military Control J 1 1/B10
Energy Minister Says Nation To Have Oil for Export [EL COMERCIO 15 Aug] J 1 1/B10

PANAMA

CRITICA Supports Panamanian Military Presence in Namibia [21 Aug] N 1 1/B11
MATUTINO Comments on Delegation's Visit to Eastern Europe [19 Aug] N 1 1/B11
Constitutional Amendments To Be Approved in September N 2 1/B12
MATUTINO Views Republican Party, High-level Commission [17 Aug] N 3 1/B13
Opposition Not Prepared for Talks [MATUTINO 17 Aug] N 4 1/B14
Panamanian Officials Deny Local Flag Ships Accident Prone N 5 1/C1
Torrijos Says Party To Assure Process Continuity [CRITICA 19 Aug] N 5 1/C1

CENTRAL AMERICA

EL SALVADOR

Newspapers Agree To Publish Guerrilla Manifesto P 1 1/C2

GUATEMALA

Defense Units Give Medical Care to Belizeans P 1 1/C2

HONDURAS

Government Said Willing To Cooperate Against Subversion P 2 1/C3
[EL CRONISTA 15 Aug]

NICARAGUA

Envoy to Costa Rica Denounces FSLN Operations [NOVEDADES 16 Aug] P 2 1/C3
Unrest Continues; Threat of General Strike Exists F 4 1/C5

CUBA

Castro Explains Neglected Ties With Latin America Q 1 1/C6
People Congratulated for Youth Festival by Fidel Q 1 1/C6
Raul Castro Praises Members of Guerrilla Column Q 2 1/C7
Cooperation With Angola in Higher Education To Increase Q 2 1/C7
Foreign Minister Malmierca Departs Geneva To Return Home Q 2 1/C7
Briefs: New Agricultural Plane Q 2 1/C7

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

President Guzman Replaces Police Department Heads R 1 1/C8
Air Force Chief Denies Possibility of Coup R 1 1/C8
General Warns Against Military Repression R 1 1/C8

24 MAY 85 B-5 P-Ex 7.10 FBIS-LAT-78-163

FBIS-LAT-78-163
Tuesday
22 August 1978
Vol VI No 163

DAILY REPORT

COMPLETED
ORIGINAL

LATIN AMERICA

Available for Distribution
From NTIS

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

This publication contains current news and commentary monitored by FBIS from foreign broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, and periodicals. Items are processed from the first or best available source; it should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign-language sources are translated by FBIS. Those from English-language sources are transcribed, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [ ] are supplied by FBIS. Labels such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how FBIS processed the information from the original. Names rendered phonetically or in transliteration are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clearly heard but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source.

Users of this publication may cite FBIS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying it as the secondary source. For example: "FBIS reports that Radio Moscow announced . . ." or "FBIS has monitored a broadcast from Hanoi which says . . ."

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

FAO SESSION CONCLUDES BY ATTACKING PROTECTIONISM

PY191948Y Montevideo Cadena de Oro del Interior in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Aug 78 PY

[Text] At the close of the FAO [Food and Agriculture Organization] regional meeting, the Latin American countries, aside from their differences over agrarian reform, have demanded better conditions for the marketing of their agricultural products from the industrialized countries. This is one of the decisions taken at the international meeting held at the municipal palace.

[Begin relay] The protectionism placed by the industrialized countries was strongly rejected. When rural development was discussed it was noted that each country has the right to govern, plan and regulate, as well as to determine the ways and actions they consider necessary to restructure the possesion of properties and the use of natural resources. To assure the equal distribution of resources and benefits coming from the exploitation; one of the recommendations states that the proposals and resolutions regarding agrarian reform, rural development and general development adopted by the international organization be implemented according to the wishes of the Latin American countries and that the guidelines must guide the efforts of the Latin American countries in this sector.

The interest of the Latin American countries regarding international trade were also specified, as well as the need to improve the entrance conditions of agricultural products exported by the countries in the region, to obtain fair and more profitable prices and a better treatment in import markets. It was expressed that rural development will not be achieved if the necessary conditions are not created within international markets to allow the decrease and eventual disappearance of protectionism placed by the developed countries, which hinder the entrance of agricultural products coming from underdeveloped countries into those markets. By decreasing prices, it therefore causes an unfair condition in relation to the products of the developed countries.

Regarding the conclusion reached on foreign trade problems, and taking into consideration the situation as explained by several countries in the region and the growing restrictions placed by several developed countries which import Latin American products, the delegates resolved to urge these countries to adopt trade policies tending to level the markets, so that open trade may offer better conditions for trade of agricultural products.

Also pointed out was the concern of the countries of the region regarding the lack of political will of developed countries to agree to negotiations to sign an international agreement on basic products.

Regarding technical cooperation among the underdeveloped countries, it was agreed to continue its programming since it is considered to be one of the ways to reach the new international economic order.

Regarding swine fever, it was recommended that the FAO should continue to act as the coordinating organization to inform the countries of the progress made to eradicate the virus.

The conference is now considering the last points of the final report and they must also determine the place and date of the next regional conference. The next conference probably will take place in Guatemala, since the Guatemalan agriculture minister, who left this morning, yesterday offered his country as the site for the next meeting.

This meeting, which is now being presided over by Luis Meyer, Uruguayan industry and energy minister, who is acting as agriculture minister, will officially be closed later. [end relay]

ARMY CHIEF VIOLA OPTIMISTIC ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH CHILE

FY211718Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1500 GMT 21 Aug 78 FY

[Excerpt] Cipolletti, Rio Negro, Argentina, 21 Aug--Army Commander Lt Gen Roberto Eduardo Viola has stated: It must be perfectly clear that principles of sovereignty have not been discussed in the negotiations with Chile since sovereignty cannot be negotiated. The president of the military junta made this statement during an interview with the Cipolleti radio station LU 19, Radio la Voz del Comahue.

Asked about the present situation with Chile, the army chief replied that optimism or pessimism regarding our relations must be measured in terms of the progress of the negotiating commission. Any other measurement outside that context, therefore, has little significance or influence on the negotiations. He added: As for my personal opinion, I am optimistic since common interests and coincidences are always found where there is dialog, particularly when the objective of the dialog is to understand and to be understood and when the goal is to overcome differences, as in this case.

Rojas Warning

FY220000Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 20 Aug 78 p 3 FY

[Text] Adm Issac Francisco Rojas (ret), head of the movement for the defense of Argentine sovereignty in the southern Atlantic islands, stated yesterday in La Plata that "Argentina does not seek war with Chile, but this does not mean we should continue yielding."

The former vice president was speaking at the La Plata Jockey Club to introduce Rear Adm Alfonso Rene Malagamba (ret). Regarding the dispute with Chile, he stated: "The moment has come for this situation to cease, but not for us to fight with them because Argentina is a pacifist nation." He emphasized, however, that "this does not mean we should continue yielding because we don't want to belittle ourselves any longer, not even for those few square kilometers of island."

Rojas stated: "We are not here to recruit warriors but to awaken consciences." He recalled that "Argentina has demonstrated its pacifist spirit since not one centimeter of any neighboring country has been trampled upon by Argentines. On the other hand, we have been attacked by all the nations surrounding us, large and small."

Negotiations Still Underway

FY211455Y Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Aug 78 FY

[Excerpt] Lima--The commander of the Argentine Navy, Adm Emilio Massera, has said that Argentine recognition of Chile's rights in the Atlantic is still under negotiation. He made these remarks when he arrived in this capital yesterday to attend the inter-American naval conference. Massera was welcomed by Peruvian Navy Minister Jorge Parodi Galliani. Massera emphasized that he feels quite at home on Peruvian territory.

LA PRENSA Editorial

FY220118Y Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 20 Aug 78 p 6 FY

[Editorial: "The Negotiations With Chile"]

[Text] The recent meeting of the second joint Argentine-Chilean commission concerning boundary limitations in the southern Atlantic area, which was held in this city, has suffered an unexpected interruption.

Despite some untimely disclosures from the Chilean Foreign Ministry, we would like to think this interruption is not final. Good sense and the spirit of moderation which should guide the diplomatic negotiations we have undertaken lead us to think this way. Following the norm, the chairmen of the two delegations issued a joint communique--laconic and, if you wish, vague, but it does not imply that the commission's operation is finished. However, the intemperate disclosure made almost simultaneously by a "spokesman" for the Chilean Government is regrettable. This official disclosure--which has not been officially denied--states that the "early" return of the Chilean delegation to Santiago was caused "by the Argentine delegation's insistence on putting forth proposals incompatible with progress in the negotiations because they are irreconcilable with the treaty of 1881, with the arbitral decision in effect, and with Chile's sovereignty over all the islands of the southern archipelago.' It unnecessarily adds that the Chilean Government categorically rejects "claims not based on international law because they violate treaties and international rulings." Such language is unjustly aggressive toward Argentina, which prides itself on having shown the entire world its complete respect for international law. Argentina's history does not record any wars inspired by the intention of achieving territorial expansion at the expense of neighboring countries. The unusual document we are commenting on has been the object of a detailed analysis by a collaborator of this newspaper, thus making it unnecessary to insist on its untimeliness and incompatibility with diplomatic norms.

The argument that the boundaries treaty of 1881 is unshakeable with respect to the issue now being discussed is unconvincing. There must be some reason why certain clauses of Article III of the treaty concerning boundary limitations in the southern area have been disputed for almost 80 years. With such a precedent, Chile cannot demand a categorical submission from Argentina to its interpretation of theory since Chile itself accepted the declaration of nullification of the treaty by our government when entering into direct negotiations.

Several times we have answered Chilean arguments with one which refutes theirs with absolute legitimacy. Invoking the well-known Article III of the treaty of 1881, our neighbor maintains that all the islands south of the Beagle Channel are Chilean domain. Even if one clause does apparently say this, another of the clauses of the same article and in the same context mentions a western and an eastern part of the southern archipelago and states that "the islands which are in the Atlantic to the East of Tierra del Fuego..." belong to Argentina. Since there are no islands to the east in the Atlantic other than the ones in dispute, it is not bold but on the contrary, just that our country should claim them as its own. On this basis, the supposed "Chilean sovereignty over all the islands of the southern archipelago" is unconvincing.

"Total respect for international rulings" presupposes that they have the minumim prerequisites of objectivity and agreement with the ideal of justice which the 1977 arbitral decision has violated. This was fully demonstrated by our government in justifying its decision not to accept the ruling on the dispute. If there should be need for further argument concerning this point, we need only refer to the explanation made by the arbitral court itself when adjourning on 10 July in which it states that "all the islands, sandbanks and other formations located south of the red demarcation line drawn on the map accompanying the court's decision are in Chile's possession." This in itself proves the "excess" which was attributed to the court. This is not what the court was asked in the first article of the arbiral agreement of 1971. The court was clearly asked its legal opinion concerning "the region mentioned in Paragraph 4" whose boundaries make up the so-called "hammer." However, the decision the court made concerns "everything to the south," without fixing a limit on that designation.

The two governments made a wise decision in agreeing to disregard the ruling in order to enter into direct negotiations. The wise and advisable thing to do is to admit the possibility for a rational interpretation which would fill the legal void created by the absence of any mention of a vertical division in the arc archipelago south of Isla Grande in accordance with the principle of two oceans imposed by the nature of events and history. Insistent on interrupting our Atlantic continuity, which is parallel with Chile's Pacific continuity, on the basis of a highly disputable right is not in accord with an upright sense of natural justice, or even with a mere rule of fairness. Chile believes it adheres to a legal position which not only is not legal, but which cannot even be termed "legalistic"--which is not the same as the first--since we are dealing with a treaty that allows for different interpretations. The attitude shown by our neighboring country, and especially the manner in which it demonstrates this attitude, leads us to ask whether entering into direct negotiations with our country had any meaning for Chile.

NEED FOR POLITICAL PARTIES, OTHER ORGANIZATIONS URGED

PY181313Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0150 GMT 18 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Aug--The Atheneum of the Argentine People, whose president is the justicialist leader and former minister Angel Federico Robledo, has issued a document addressed to the military junta in which it stated that "the silence of the citizenry cannot be enforced indefinitely" under the pretext that they "must not interfere with the process of national reorganization." The communique also claimed that the political parties are "representative bodies for large sectors of public opinion," and demanded "the reestablishment of the state of law as soon as the terrorist emergency is overcome."

The communique issued by the Atheneum indicated that "dialog between leaders and people should be channeled through truly representative organizations," and reasserted that "it is indispensible to authorize the operation of political parties and of workers and business associations so they can update their programs and reorganize their cadres to improve their organizations." The communique was delivered yesterday at the national congress building where the Secretariat of the military junta is located. The text of the communique was released today.

The communique indicated that the union movement is "an inalienable expression of social power," and affirms that "it deserves its share of power and responsibility in keeping with clear-cut national ideals." With regard to the economic situation the communique indicated that "labor sectors are facing problems" due to "the closing of important enterprises."

It goes on to recall "the union and social gains acquired between 1946 and 1955," stressing that similar gains were very significant for other countries "but in our case the result from these gains was not enough to preclude the current situation." The communique added: "We have lost too much time testing the controversy between the liberal elite unitarianism (which has always managed to reappear like the phoenix) and the mass-oriented populist federalism--that is, the conflict between civilian and military governments."

It went on to say that "24 March 1976 should be viewed as the irreversible end of a cycle of Argentine life which terminated the systems prevailing up to that point through alternating constitutional and de facto governments." The communique went on to indicate that "the so-called power factors and pressure groups express themselves through independent channels" and concluded by stating that the armed forces are part of the nation and as such are fully entitled to their share of power and responsiblity and to participation in the leadership of the nation."

PEREDA PRESENTS DEMOCRATIZATION VIEWS LATORE TOPATER

PY191923Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Aug 78 PY

[Text] President Juan Pereda has stated to six former ministers, who now form the Topater civic-military group, that the democratization of the country should be carried out with seriousness and responsibility, without depending on any fixed deadlines. The president confirmed his intention of guiding the country on the road to democracy, saying that he only hoped that the political parties would keep their (?goals) within the limits of the electoral law.

The president also showed himself determined that there should be no official candidate at the next elections and that impartiality be the guideline for the armed forces in the future. General Pereda also agreed that the members of the armed forces should return to their barracks, once the country is constitutionalized, and dedicate themselves to their specific jobs.

These opinions were presented to members of the Topater group, who visited President Pereda in the last few hours to make some political proposals, among other things that the elections should be held in the first half of January 1979, at the latest. According to the Topater group, the new government should assume power on 14 February, the date on which the 100th anniversary of the Chilean aggression against our coast will be commemorated.

The group, formed by officers who have held government posts, also requested that the next elections be presided over by a military cabinet, so that the armed forces can show their desire to constitutionalize the country.

STUDENT SHOT DURING DEMONSTRATION SUPPORTING STRIKE

PY190221Y La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 18 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpts] (Adrian Ramirez), executive secretary of the Association of Secondary School Students, was shot today during a demonstration which students of Ayacucho Secondary School staged today demanding solution of the university problem. Our source indicated that (Adrian Ramirez) is in danger of becoming an invalid.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS END HUNGER STRIKE

PY211657Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1528 GMT 21 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpt] La Paz, 21 Aug--The hunger strike carried out by some 80 university students, demanding the democratic designation of teachers and an autonomous university, concluded here today when their demands were accepted.

HEAD OF NATIONAL LIBERATION ALLIANCE CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT

PY152235Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 15 Aug 78 PY

[Summary] Ruben Sanchez, head of the National Liberation Alliance [ALIN] has said that there is no valid reason to postpone the national elections for 24 months. With regard to the anullment of the state security law and the compulsory civil service law, he said that they were annulled because they were obsolete and unpopular. He also emphasized that the mission of the armed forces is to defend national sovereignty and to guarantee democracy.

COFFEE EXPORTS REOPEN; FROST DAMAGE SET AT 34 PERCENT

PY211816Y Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Aug 78 p 20 PY

[Excerpt] The Brazilian Coffee Institute (IBC) yesterday reopened the export sales of soluble and grain coffee, maintaining the minimum price and the foreign exchange withheld by the government which were in effect before the frost. International price quotations are on the rise, particularly in the New York merchandise exchange.

IBC President Camilo Clazans said in a press interview in Rio de Janeiro that yesterday's resolution, bearing number 40/78, is temporary--3 days perhaps--to test the market situation. Depending on the reaction abroad, the IBC could change the minimum price which is currently pegged at $1.50 per pound or $198 per 60-kg bag, as well as the amount of foreign exchange withheld.

Calazans also revealed the extent of the damage caused by this week's frost on production areas. The next coffee harvest (1978-79) will be reduced by 34 percent from an estimated 24.3 million to 16.1 million sacks.

U.S. FISHING BOAT SEIZED FOR ILLEGAL OPERATIONS

PY211724Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 20 Aug 78 p 16 PY

[Text] The navy destroyer Parana, which is on a training mission off the northern coast, yesterday seized another U.S. fishing boat, the Falcon, which was operating illegally in Brazilian territorial waters. The fishing boat was towed into the base of the 4th naval district in Belem by the corvette Mearin and the destroyer Parana. So far this year, 20 foreign vessels have already been seized off the northern coast. As with the other ships, the Falcon will be stripped of its catch and its fishing gear and will then be freed upon the payment of a fine of 90,000 cruzeiros.

EM TEMPO OFFICE IN BELO HORIZONTE BOMBED

PY182349Y Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 18 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Belo Horizonte--A bomb exploded today at the Belo Horizonte branch of the magazine EM TEMPO, destroying a typewriter and all the glass in the room. This terrorist attack took place less than a month after the same branch of the magazine was invaded by persons who painted the walls with the letters GAP and MAC [initials for anticommunist groups].

BRAZIL, BAHAMAS ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS

PY190306Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2245 GMT 18 Aug 78 PY

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 18 Aug--Brazil and the Bahamas have decided to establish diplomatic relations, according to a communique issued here today by the Brazilian Foreign Ministry. According to the ministry the relations, which will be implemented through nonresident ambassadors, are in line with Brazil's policy of rapprochement with countries of the Caribbean.

GENERAL BRADY DENIES HE WILL SUCCEED PINOCHET

PY211838Y Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 18 Aug 78 p 13 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile--General Hermann Brady, former defense minister and current president of the National Nuclear Energy Commission, has denied rumors that he would eventually be President Augusto Pinochet's successor.

Brady said that the armed forces will not remain in power indefinitely and admitted that he is concerned about the opposition which some sectors in the United States are promoting against the Chilean regime. He also admitted that "it will be a shock for the armed forces" if the participation of Gen Manuel Contreras in the murder of former Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier is proven.

This was the second time in a month that Brady denied rumors that he could be designated to succeed Pinochet. A month ago he had already voiced "his total and unrestricted loyalty" to the government. In an interview published yesterday by the magazine COSAS, Brady said that the armed forces do not want to stay in power forever: "We believe that we should achieve those goals which the government set for itself and that once those goals have been achieved, the government could be returned to civilians."

Brady refused to say how long the armed forces will stay in power because he was not thinking in terms of time "but in terms of goals." He mentioned some of these objectives, namely, the adoption of a new constitution and "the creation of civic consciousness among Chileans, which had been distorted." He noted that "the most serious problem we now face concerns the attitude adopted by some sectors in the United States, just to boost their political position domestically."

He discounted the possibility of a rupture of relations with the United States and warned that "a rupture would not be beneficial in the least because it would have bad political, economic and all sorts of consequences...." Brady held the post of defense minister until April and his departure coincided with the expulsion from the country of U.S. citizen Michael Townley, who had confessed in Washington that he placed in Letelier's car the bomb which killed him.

Mariana Townley, the wife of Townley, arrived in Washington yesterday with her two children. She left Chile after selling the house and all belongings which the couple had in Santiago. Mariana wants to stay near her husband, who had been indicted by a federal grand jury, along with four Cuban exiles, for the death of Letelier.

PRESIDENT PINOCHET INTERVIEWED BY MADRID PAPER

LD180835Y Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 13 Aug 78 pp 6-7 LD

[Angel Luis de la Calle interview with President Pinochet: "I Will Only Leave the Presidency When Chile Is Socially at Peace and Politically Secure"--date and place not specified]

[Text] Question: Do you consider yourself satisfied with the work accomplished in almost 5 years since September 1973?

Answer: The certainty that we are doing well, in light of the great gains achieved in such a short time, gives us, rather than satisfaction, the strength necessary for carrying on. I believe that satisfaction is only achieved at the conclusion of a completed task, and in Chile we have recently laid sound foundations for our recovery.

Completing the first two stages is not the entire task; there is still a little left to be done. The Chilean people, who demanded that we put an end to the chaos caused by Allende's experiment and who now enjoy peace and hope of a free and democratic future, prove to us the absolute need to put an end to that period of disorder and anarchy. I am proud of the Chilean people, who have known how to answer the call of the fatherland with generosity and support for the difficult task of economically, socially and morally rebuilding this country, which was brought to chaos by all those ideologies which are so alien to our individual nature. Without the support of various well-intentioned sectors, who never withdrew their support from us, any attempt would have been in vain.

The negative aspect--apparently only in the political sphere--is the lack of understanding and objectivity with which Chile has been judged abroad, influenced perhaps by a massive and deceitful propaganda which, through lack of resources, we have been unable to rebut. We have trusted solely in the power of the facts and in the truth, but without worldwide propaganda.

I believe that the Chilean people are beginning to realize more clearly the benefits of the enormous effort made to emerge from the political, economic and social chaos in which the Popular Unity government plunged them, and all through their own means. This country has rebuilt itself on its own, despite the grave world crisis which affected it very severely and the lack of support and understanding of the international community.

We have had very bad moments, but, in light of the great gains achieved, we can assure you that Chile is doing well, and that gives us the strength to continue the task which has been undertaken.

We do not have the slightest doubt of the need to carry out the mandate of the people, who demanded that the armed forces put an end to the chaos created by Allende's experiment, so that they could again enjoy the peace and tranquillity so greatly desired by this people and, above all, head toward a free and democratic future with real prospects of development. First of all, we are proud of the Chilean people's response to the call of the fatherland to undertake the difficult taks of national rebuilding.

Second, this country is today an island of peace and social tranquillity in a deeply convulsed world.

Third, we have emerged from the economic chaos, and, what is better, the foundations of the economy have been rectified, a socioeconomic development such as had never been dreamed of being planned.

Fourth, a profound change of structures and outlooks in the entire order of things is being experienced; there is now trust in the creative capacity of men and institutions to forge their own destiny instead of depending on a paternalist and inefficient state.

The most negative aspect has been political problems at the international level; the incredible campaign conducted by our enemies abroad has caused Chile to be judged with a complete lack of understanding and objectivity, applying a double standard and criteria which are adjusted to suit the interest of each country under various circumstances.

In domestic policy there is the persistence of the small leading oligarchies of the party political system which monopolized the social life of this country and have not resigned themselves to losing the power which they wielded in accordance with their particular interests. They belong to international political groups and compensate for their lack of popular support with the external pressure of their parties.

Question: Many people abroad and also many Chileans believe that the country's sacrifices over the years (human lives, exiles, international isolation and so forth) have been out of proportion to the achievements made. What is your opinion in this regard?

Answer: Those who think that way are unacquainted with the real situation in Chile or judge our government's action on the basis of mistaken criteria. There is such great mystification and such a distorted caricature of our situation that I am sure that they exaggerate each of the factors you mention absolutely disproportionately and quite unrealistically. For instance, with regard to the people who regrettably died in the fighting, they do not even vaguely reflect the thousands of deaths mentioned abroad. Now, when there is not a single person under arrest for common crimes connected with politics, people talk about thousands of political prisoners, and so forth. Thus people lie shamelessly in the sure knowledge that the vast campaign staged by our adversaries will prevent the truth from being known; but, thank God, the truth will always out and it is gradually beginning to emerge, especially thanks to the unmistakable success of the economic system which has been adopted, which is a modern mixed model whose results are undeniable, especially as it relates to the more underprivileged sectors.

Also, people visiting our country observe indignantly the lie to which they have been subjected, since an 8-percent growth rate, the peace and tranquillity which this country enjoys, the really fair distribution of the state's social support which accounts for 53 percent of the national budget and the fall in inflation from a forecast 1,000 percent to only 25 percent are results which of course cannot be ignored. Of course this has not been achieved without costs: It has been achieved through an effort and sacrifice shared by all, and the Chilean people, as I have said, have generously supported our action because they know that the armed forces are working to make the country greater and not to satisfy personal interests.

Question: Do you believe it possible for Chile to achieve an atmosphere of concord and national pacification without the participation of numerous Chileans living abroad?

Answer: Do you believe, sir, that those who have devoted themselves entirely to lying, insulting, calumniating, defaming and harshly attacking us and who are guided solely by revanchism can contribute anything positive? It is difficult for a poor tree to yield good fruit, and if we have managed to recover Chile without them I believe that we can continue without them.

This does not mean that under certain conditions they cannot return to the country--only that one must not be naive in this regard. If they are prepared to work for their country, forgetting their party political and divisionist aims, they will be welcome.

"Traditional Democracy Has Outlived Its Usefulness"

Question: Chile has without doubt one of the longest democratic traditions of any Latin American country. In view of this premise the historical period over which you are presiding must be considered exceptional. Is your government's objective to return to the democratic system, traditional in Chilean history? What plans and deadlines exist for the achievement of such an objective? What role is assigned in this plan to the traditional political forces?

Answer: It was precisely the Chilean democratic tradition which prompted us on 11 September 1973 to put an end to the imperialist intentions of Soviet communism. But we did not want to fall out of the frying pan into the fire. In order to achieve anything democracies must be modernized and must be technically useful.

Chile has always defended its freedom and sovereignty above all else. Our democracy must therefore guarantee both things. Our democracy in Chile must be a democracy for freedom, which compels people to show a respect which insures coexistence.

If you were to read our declaration of principles--and my speeches on the new institutions enclosing them for this purpose--you would have a clear idea of our government's political timetable. And if you compare it with the facts you will be able to verify that everything has been accomplished.

As you probably do not have time to read both documents, I will summarize them for you: (A) The government's objective on the political front is, rather than return to a traditional democracy, to move toward a new democracy which guarantees freedom, rights and respect for the human being. It is no secret that traditional democracy, which monopolized public opinion in partisan oligarchies, has outlived its usefulness to countries because the political party has sunk into party politics and ended up putting the particular interests of its group above the general interests of the nation. Our search for democracy must therefore be oriented toward finding a system which, while insuring freedom, respect and human rights, also insures healthy coexistence inside the law, real participation by the people in running the government and a state economic, social and administrative system which creates the foundations for personal development and is completely at the service of the people. (B) We have been gradually achieving these objectives by establishing a modern mixed economy model in which private enterprise is encouraged by the state but the state in turn regulates and effectively corrects any dislocation which may arise from the clash of interests among private persons or between private persons and public property.

The stages laid down have been:

(1) The restoration of social peace, without which harmonious development is impossible. (2) Establishment of the Chilean economic model, whose achievements are recognized throughout the world. (3) A stage of creative normalization, in which we now find ourselves, the aim of which is to seek real solutions to real problems on the political front on the basis of our experience--and you must admit that there have been political experiments in Chile--on which experience we can build the theoretical foundations for our new institutions. (4) Finally, the stage of creating the new institutions in real practical terms.

For these stages there are goals but not deadlines, because in 1974 we thought that the first phases would take 6-8 years. But thanks to the efforts of all the Chilean people we have completed them in only just over 4 years. For this reason we never thought it advisable to put a straitjacket on a reality which is too dynamic. (C) Finally, the role assigned to the traditional political forces is the role they should always have played as opinion groups, reflecting certain viewpoints. In other words, they will not be able to monopolize public opinion or the sovereign will, still less will they be allowed to have the power they enjoyed before to put their own group or personal interests before the interests of the country and public property.

We are not pursuing ideas or thoughts, which would be absurd; what we cannot accept--and no sensible government could--is for violence, terrorism and the destruction of fundamental human values, human rights and freedom to be fomented in honor of certain ideas; for the country and its people to be enslaved to the directives of foreign imperialists, whoever they may be, in honor of these same ideas.

"This Is A Military Task"

Question: Do you intend to preside over this political process right to the end?

Answer: As a soldier I have been trained to lead and to carry out tasks in their entirety, always taking any contrary circumstances into account. This is a military task which I have always looked on as such.

Question: Do you believe that the people's referendum of 4 January was an expression of Chileans' support for you personally?

Answer: Their support is not so much for me personally as for the regime and the results of the government's actions. The dilemma was whether we Chileans accepted foreign interference which insisted that this government does not enjoy popular support or whether we backed our government's practical and appropriate course.

The majority of the people--without pressure of any kind--confirmed the mandate they granted us 11 September 1973 when they called on us to save the country and engineer its recovery. This is the great result of 4 January: ratification of the people's support for the regime.

In the same referendum a large number of compatriots said "no" to the question formulated. Many of the Chileans living aborad would presumably have said "no," too, if they had been in Chile.

Question: What significance do you attach to that?

Answer: The "no" from some of my compatriots is important insofar as it shows that there are people who disagree with the government. The fact that many of these people are politicians of long standing who long for power or for their lost privileges does not alter the fact that they can all freely express their opinions not only in this kind of consultation but also in the papers, on the radio and through the various news media which operate freely in the country. With regard to Chileans living abroad, I firmly believe that there is a percentage of people who would have voted "yes."

Question: Would you be prepared to resign as president if it meant that old wounds could be finally healed and complete national harmony established?

Answer: I will relinquish the presidency when, having completed the itinerary established at Chacarillas in 1977, we are sure that we are handing over an economically strong, socially peaceful and politically safe Chile, as the citizens requested in 1973.

This reality toward which we are advancing decisively and clearly and sooner than we estimated at first includes what you call "the healing of old wounds" and national harmony.

Question: The majority of international political analysts agree that the current U.S. administration favors a change in Chile's political structures and above all a change in the people leading the Chilean people. What is your opinion in this regard?

Answer: The people's right to govern themselves includes analysis of the opinions and advice which foreigners wish to convey to us, but this does not necessarily mean that we must heed everyone who believes that he has better solutions.

We Chileans know the country's needs best and the resources and means for satisfying them.

The answer given 4 January 1978 decided whether the Chilean people wanted to accept foreign pressure rather than their own sovereign will. This was ratified in the people's statements regarding the "recipes" published in a Washington daily.

If the majority of the Chilean people support their government, their administration and the people directing the process, what do you want me to tell you?

Question: These same analysts believe that the "Letelier case" is a tool being used to weaken your government and even to achieve your resignation as president of the republic. Could you give me your opinion on this point?

Answer: To judge the intentions of and to assume ill will behind the actions of traditionally friendly countries does not seem to me a good policy for international relations. I do not consider it very logical or profitable to believe that a country which has struggled so determinedly for truth, independence and justice would use justice to reverse the truth and subvert another nation's independence.

Question: To what extent is your government prepared to cooperate in clarifying the "Letelier case" and other cases which might arise?

Answer: The government's attitude has been so open and cooperative in this matter that we have provided all kinds of facilities and we will continue to do so, as long as what is asked of us does not violate Chilean law and legislation, whose procedures are--as you must know--different from those of the United States.

This is the basis for all our cooperation: respect for our sovereignty and for our country's legal procedures.

Question: There seems to be proof of the involvement of persons connected with the dissolved National Intelligence Directorate (DINA) in Orlando Letelier's death. DINA is also accused of having grave responsibility for acts committed during the first months after the military junta's accession to power. What responsibility does your government bear? In your opinion, did DINA ever act as a power parallel to that of the military junta itself?

Answer: So far nothing seems to have been proved. There are only suspicions and charges which have not been proved. This has been accompanied by profuse information distorted and manipulated by the usual malicious people who miss no opportunity to insult and defame the government of national liberation.

All kinds of charges are made against the Chilean intelligence services as is the case with the internal security services of all the countries of the world, and all kinds of actions are attributed to them.

DINA, as all intelligence services of the national defense institutions, played its part in the civil war unleashed by Mr Allende with his unfortunate and catastrophic running of the country. They had to guarantee social peace by struggling on the difficult front of urban guerrilla warfare and terrorism, whose arms and methods Europe is now suffering from itself. On the other hand, you would not expect Soviet communism to stop its classic weapon of disparaging the enemy which beats it.

Question: In recent months there has been talk of open discrepancies within the junta which you lead. Is it true about these discrepancies? What influence could they have on the country's future?

Answer: The differences of opinion within the junta are in fact one of the qualities which imparted dynamism and strength to the military government's actions.

Analysis from varying viewpoints and from the angle of different personalities and characters has always enriched our decision.

Now the disagreements of someone who does not accept the majority consensus logically has forced us to make a decision. Had we not done so, this would have produced a split within the government, so we had to consider the reeducation on the junta, which inevitably implied a problem for the country.

Question: Over the years your government has been accused of grave violations of human rights. What can you say in this connection?

Answer: The manipulation of the concept of "human rights" by using the idea in an ambiguous and broad sense has been clearly demonstrated in current international politics. The concept has also been manipulated with respect to Chile, because to accuse a country defending itself from terrorist attack of violating human rights, to accuse a soldier defending his homeland's peace and freedom of violating rights is as cynical and malicious as trying to justify a death sentence against a dissident who merely thinks differently by pretending that he is a spy.

The accusations against Chile are the product of the hatred of the defeated enemy in his attempt to hand Chile over to foreign imperialism.

Question: What is the significance of the presence in Chile of the UN ad hoc human rights committee? Does this presence not contradict the initial objectives of the 4 January consultation?

Answer: It is a symbol of honesty and integrity to show the world that by respecting our individual nature it will always be possible to reach an understanding with Chile. It also means that under these conditions we will agree to a visit by the committee which wants to gather information on the situation in the country as long as any country subsequently approached by it shows the same willingness and honesty as Chile to receive such a committee.

Question: Does the government which you lead intend to present any report on the whereabouts or status of a long list of people believed to be missing?

"The Cases of Missing Persons Are Being Investigated"

Answer: The cases of people assumed to be missing are being investigated one by one personally by the minister of the interior and the investigations department. The government's stance has been very clear in this respect and we are most anxious to clarify every case as long as there is cooperation and good will on the part of the families of those concerned.

We have emphatically repeated that the government has no record of the 280 specific cases seriously submitted by the solidarity committee, the only relatively serious list submitted so far. But the fact that we have no records does not mean that we will not help clear up every case.

Question: What is the present economic situation in the country? Has there not been an unequal accumulation of wealth in a few hands in recent years at the expense of the great Chilean middle class?

Answer: This is a country where it is necessary to generate wealth in order to distribute wealth and not impoverish it in order to distribute poverty. There are indeed people and groups who have made money and our aim is for all Chileans to be in this category.

Now the government, in its head-on battle to eradicate extreme poverty, has reformed its tax system and it has done this by adopting measures which prevent tax evasion by the wealthiest sectors as normally happened in the past. Hence the tax yield this year has been the highest yet and most of the increased revenue has been earmarked for the really needy sectors in the country. This has been a contribution, albeit compulsory and necessary, by those who have the most for the benefit of those who have the least--which is something that many people stubbornly refuse to recognize, arguing that only the latter have been sacrificed.

Question: As far as foreign policy is concerned, what is the situation in the dispute with Argentina over the Beagle Channel problem? Your latest declarations were considered aggressive. How firm a stand is your government prepared to take in this conflict?

Answer: As you will remember, we had an outstanding border dispute with Argentina which was resolved by an arbitration ruling by the British Crown, to which we had appealed by common consent. At present our two countries are conducting bilateral negotiations aimed at finding legal solutions to a few problems stemming from application of the aforementioned ruling.

We are confident that we will find a solution to these problems on the basis of observance of law, the treaties freely signed by both sides and international agreements, and once they are settled I am sure they will give fresh impetus to our relations.

For this reason the firmness of the position upheld by the supreme government of Chile will remain unchanged since it is a characteristic inherent in the Chilean, expressed in his traditional respect for international law, which has always enabled us to bring our foreign policy to a happy conclusion.

Question: What do you think of the democratic process in Spain?

Answer: We observe with great interest everything that is happening in the mother country, but because these are matters which concern the Spanish people exclusively, whose characteristics and political reality we cannot observe at a distance of 20,000 km, it would be rash and frivolous to express an opinion on the subject. Moreover, it would go against our traditional policy of not interfering in any nation's internal affairs.

It only remains for me to hope that your country, to which we are linked by so many ties of friendship which we wish to extend and strengthen, will achieve ever more greatness.

HEAD OF BEAGLE NEGOTIATING TEAM EXPECTS RESUMPTION

PY212018Y Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 21 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Francisco Orrego Vicuna, head of the Chilean delegation to mixed commission No 2, has stated that Chilean-Argentine border negotiations may resume within 2 weeks. Professor Orrego Vicuna, who has the rank of ambassador, added that evaluation of the work we have done during this stage within the commission is proceeding normally.

[Begin Orrego Vicuna recording] Well, there were [words indistinct] statements such as those issued by the Foreign Ministry but what we hope is that the evaluation will proceed normally. (?I would like) to explain to you that this was established in the regulations of the commission from the very beginning. That is, whenever the time for a decision would come, a stage of evaluation would be declared and this is precisely what has happened now. [end recording]

He noted, moreover, that as long as the Argentine-Chilean border commission continues there is no reason to think about resorting to the international court in the Hague. Ambassador Orrego said that these negotiations involve a specific issue and that the difficulties found in the Argentine position to include the islands south of the Beagle Channel and the Cape Horn Archipelago, is nothing new and does not cause surprise to anyone. [recorded passage indistinct] Ambassador Orrego stressed that the decision to appeal to the international court is not in the hands of the commission, adding that this is a decision which only a government can make but always after exploiting all other means of negotiations. He also added that the request for an extension of the deadline which closes on 2 November is not foreseen.

[Begin Orrego Vicuna recording] The commission has a clear mandate of 180 days, which ends on 2 November, and we hope that before that deadline the commission will be able to submit to the respective governments opinions which will be made effective. Therefore, it is not appropriate for the commission to request an extention of the deadline or anything of the sort (?but only fulfill its task) within the established deadline.

[Question] How long will this impasse last?

[Answer] I would not use the word impasse because of the reasons I previously explained to you. The evaluation usually takes two or three weeks. [end recording]

Ambassador Orrego held an extensive meeting at the Foreign Ministry this morning from 0900 to 1100 with the other members of the commission. These meetings will continue with the participation of Chilean Foreign Ministry special advisers.

MINISTRY OFFICIALS BEGIN DIALOG ON MINE DISPUTE

PY191523Y Santiago Chile Radio Mineria Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 19 Aug 78 PY

[Text] Santiago--The talks between officials of the Mining and Labor Ministries and the various leaders of the [words indistinct] Chuqui (?pueblo) have begun. The talks began yesterday at 1600 at the office of the Mining Ministry and will continue until 1830 today. For 2 hours the leaders discussed what has occurred at the mine from 8 August to the present, step by step.

(Pedro Tapia), president of the Chuquicamata local, stated when he left the meeting that it was a frank and positive meeting, since the ministers were acquainted only with management's version of the conflict. (Tapia) made it clear that the Chuqui problem cannot be considered a labor problem but strictly an economic conflict. He added: We talked with the ministers on this basis. We explained the situation to them and stated that it is the government's responsibility to decide on the amount of eventual economic improvement.

Bernadino Castillo, president of the Copper Mines Federation, stated that they had briefed the officials on the origin and process of the movement called the boycott on meals and that this would continue while the talks in Santiago are being held. Castillo indicated that the talks will also include the problem of dismissed workers but that this point will be discussed tomorrow or Monday. He stated, however, that the six people who were dismissed were illegally separated from their positions and that the solution is in the hands of the courts. The leaders did not give a more specific report on the case because, according to them, they do not have an official (?version) of the issue.

The Chuquicamata industrial and professional unions, in turn, issued a public statement in reply to the words of the minister secretary general of government, words which affect them directly.

The statement is signed by all leaders and by (Pedro Tapia Zuleta), president of the Chuquicamata local, and it states that leaders and workers are surprised by the minister's attitude, in the sense of disregarding just requests on the grounds that the workers' attitude meant a strictly political movement. The statement also rejects the minister's statement that the workers' dismissal was decided in view of background information on their violation of contract rights and duties. The statement indicates that the workers were dismissed because of their participation in the 8 August assembly. It adds that workers do not like being called politicians just because they asked for what was due them. The statement concludes by asking the minister to be more specific in his statement, in view of his assertion that some politicians had met with leaders and workers of the labor sector, and considering that an ambiguous statement only tends to cause more confusion and uneasiness among workers.

BRIEFS

ADMIRAL MERINO TO PERU--Santiago, Chile--Adm Jose Toribio Merino, commander in chief of the navy and member of the Chilean government junta, went to Peru today to participate in ceremonies in memory of liberator Bernardo O'Higgins. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1632 GMT 19 Aug 78 PY]

NAVY INCORPORATES SPANISH AIRPLANES--Santiago, Chile, 19 Aug--The Chilean Navy has incorporated two modern turboprop C-212 airplanes purchased in Spain at $1 million each. These two units, which are among of four purchased from the firm Industria Aeronautica Casa, arrived in Chile on 18 August. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1653 GMT 19 Aug 78 PY]

INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION INCREASE--The Industrial Development Association reported that industrial production grew 10.3 percent during the first half of 1978, while sales grew only 1.2 percent. The greatest increase recorded during this period was in the consumer durables sector, which increased 37.6 percent, and vehicle production, which increased 29.6 percent. [Santiago Chile EL MERCURIO in Spanish 18 Aug 78 p 7 PY]

KIDNAPED U.S. CITIZEN STILL HELD BY FARC

PA211946Y Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 15 Aug 78 p 2 PA

[Text] Neiva, Colombia, 13 Aug (Colombia press--Col Oswaldo Careno Chamorro, commander of Neiva's Tenerife battalion, confirmed today American biologist Richard Starr, who was kidnaped by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) over 18 months ago in Sierra la Macarena, Llanos Orientales, is currently in El Guayabero region, on the border between Caqueta and Huila.

"We know that Mr Starr has been taken to Guayabero, where Marulanda Velez, alias 'Tiro Fijo,' can also be found," the officer affirmed. Colonel Carreno Chamorro said he does not yet know if FARC has contacted Starr's relatives or U.S. Government officials on releasing the biologist.

He added that the troops have made several efforts to obtain the kidnaped American's prompt release, but he admitted that no clues have been obtained in these operations. It is necessary to act cautiously in the face of the death threat that exists against the kidnaped biologist, he said.

Exchange Proposal Reported

PA220301Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2114 GMT 21 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 21 Aug (AFP)--A rebel organization that 1 year ago kidnaped Richard Starr, a U.S. biologist, has proposed exchanging him for two Colombian guerrillas imprisoned here, it was learned today. According to reports, the pro-Soviet organization the Revolutionary Armed Forces at Colombia (FARC) proposed the exchange in a message sent recently to the Colombian armed forces command.

The guerrillas are Carlos Reyes Nino and Marcos Guaracas, members of the pro-Chinese Popular Liberation Army (EPL). Reyes Nino has been tortured by Colombian security agents, according to reports released in past months.

An EPL group last Friday occupied the offices of a U.S. news agency here and a Colombian weekly publication to denounce the Reyes Nino case.

Prisoner Exchange Unconfirmed

PA220339Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--Armed forces commander Brig Gen Jaime Sarmiento said today that he has not been informed of an alleged message from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] proposing the exchange of U.S. biologist Richard Starr for guerrillas Carlos Reyes Nino and Jaime Guaracas [as received].

Reports to this effect circulated this afternoon in Leiva and Bogota, but the armed forces commander said that he was not aware of this request. Richard Starr, who was captured by the FARC and is reportedly being held in the Guayabero region, was kidnaped 11 months ago in the Macarena mountains.

COLOMBIA TO HOST COFFEE SUMMIT, EXAMINE MARKET SITUATION

PA171554Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Eight American coffee-producing countries will study the situation caused by the frosts in Brazil at a coffee summit in Bogota on Tuesday. The meeting is to draw up a joint strategy to normalize marketing and international coffee prices.

The Bogota coffee summit was called at the suggestion of Colombia and Brazil, the world's two principal coffee producers. Leaders of the coffee industry in the nations invited to the summit will examine the market situation and coordinate the position of producing countries so as to present a definite line at the meeting of the executive committee and council of the international coffee agreement in London on 13 September.

Colombian Finance Minister Jaime Garcia Parra will convene and coordinate the coffee summit. The countries invited, aside from Colombia, are Brazil, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica and Venezuela. The information was provided at the end of a meeting by the national coffee committee.

The Colombian Government has dismissed the possibility that the new coffee situation will produce inflationary pressures and economic instability such as those of the past coffee bonanza. Finance Minister Jaime Garcia Parra disclosed that together with coffee authorities mechanisms will be sought to prevent a repetition of developments which led Colombia's economy into instability in the past.

Ivory Coast To Participate

PA220255Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Bogota--Nine countries will be represented at the international coffee producers summit to begin in this city tomorrow. The National Coffee Federation said tonight that the delegations from Brazil, Ivory Coast, Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala, El Salvador, Venezuela and Costa Rica should be arriving tonight.

Although tomorrow's coffee summit was to include only the Latin American producers, it was agreed at the last minute to accept the presence of the Ivory Coast, one of the largest African coffee producers, at the coffee summit. Jean Marie (Cabushinve) will be representing the Ivory Coast as well as the African coffee organization at the world coffee producers meeting. (Cabushinve) will have the right to speak at the meeting although he will not sign the Bogota coffee declaration.

UNITY OF TRADE UNION MOVEMENT THREATENED BY UTC LEADERS

PA181748Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Bogota--The unity of action established in a protocol by the country's four major labor unions was threatened a few hours ago after the Union of Workers of Colombia (UTC) charged that the National Trade Union Council does not fulfill any objectives of common benefit. UTC leaders Tulio Cuevas Romero, Alvaro Ramirez Pinilla and Jose Corredor Nunez emphatically stated that the trade union movement's ideological structure does not permit programmatic unity. They also denounced disloyalty and piracy in the trade union movement and called for a total realinement of the labor class in order to fulfill its commitments to the least favored sectors.

After charging that the National Trade Union Council made up of the four labor centrals has no common or social justice objectives, the UTC proposed this total realinement of the Colombian trade union movement. UTC leader Jose Corredor Nunez noted that the trade union movement has become a group of vested interests rather than a pressure group. While scoring the National Trade Union Council, Corredor said that it has no consensus of opinions or coherent ideology. Warning about a total failure in the unity of the labor centrals, Jose Corredor Nunez commented that the trade union movement is being mocked because it has turned into a long playing record that cannot be heard.

ELECTORAL COURT VOIDS VOTES OF 54 QUITO PRECINCTS

PA190142Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] After counting the votes of 3 Quito districts last night, the Supreme Electoral Tribunal voided the voting records of 54 electoral boards of this capital, or a total of over 20,000 votes if one takes into account that each polling place had 500 registered voters and the average turnout at each polling place was 450 voters.

MINISTER RELEASES REGULATIONS FOR RUNOFF ELECTIONS

PA191624Y Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 1255 GMT 19 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpt] Ecuadorean Government Minister Col Bolivar Jarrin Cahuenas has said that the state legal reorganization plan will continue to be fulfilled and will conclude with the transfer of power to whoever wins the citizens' votes. The minister urged the people and political leaders to be prudent, understanding and patient as the vote count continues.

On releasing regulations for the runoff elections, Jarrin asked for an end to misleading speculations and rumors that harm national unity. The regulations for the runoff elections for president do not establish a date for turning over power. They leave the electoral tribunal free to set the date.

In his statement Minister Jarrin stressed that only harmony and national unity will enable the new president to receive power from the armed forces, insuring the establishment of a new permanent and promising democracy.

[Begin Jarrin Recording] I have the pleasure of releasing the regulations for the runoff elections of president and vice president of the republic. I must explain that the text of the regulations is exactly the same as that suggested by the Supreme Electoral Tribunal. With this, I hope there will be an end to all the recent speculations and rumors.

Gentlemen, let this also be the opportunity to state that the state legal reorganization plan will continue to be fulfilled. The election results will be respected. The plan will culminate in the transfer of power to whoever wins the majority of the valid votes. This was the decision of the armed forces and it has been categorically expressed by the president of the Supreme Council of Government in his recent speeches. I repeat: This is the decision of the armed forces. The plan will be fulfilled.

Once again, I would like to ask my fellow citizens, particularly the political leaders, for more prudence, understanding and patience so that everyone can fulfill his mission [words indistinct]. Let us not try to force the disregard or violation of legal provisions so that things will come out in favor of one sector. Only if regulations are applied equally to everyone will we achieve a just conclusion amid the harmony of all Ecuadoreans. I believe that only that harmony and national unity will permit whoever receives power from the armed forces to be successful in establishing a permanent and promising democracy for the country's future.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN DEBT--The Ecuadorean foreign debt is close to $1.6 billion according to Finance Minister Juan Reyna. This figure is some $300 million above the maximum limit set for 1978 by former Minister Santiago Sevilla. He said, however, that the national finaicial situation is sound because the country dedicates only 11 percent of its foreign currency income to retiring the debt. [Quito Cadena del Triunfo in Spanish 2300 GMT 14 Aug 78 PA]

PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT PLACES MINES UNDER MILITARY CONTROL

PA220357Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0339 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Lima, 21 Aug (AFP)--The Peruvian Government has placed the country's main mining districts under military control, and has suspended individual freedoms in these areas, claiming that a "climate of agitation" is being created there. About 40,000 miners have been on strike for 17 days in the copper, iron, lead, and zinc mines.

ENERGY MINISTER SAYS NATION TO HAVE OIL FOR EXPORT

PA200124Y Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 15 Aug 78 p 1 PA

[Excerpt] The energy and mines minister has stated that the price of gasoline will not go up. He added that by the end of this year Peru will be producing 200,000 barrels of oil a day and will have an exportable daily surplus of between 3,000 and 5,000 barrels.

After reaffirming the statements made by [economy and finance minister] Dr Silva Ruete to the effect that the price of gasoline will not be changed, Energy and Mines Minister Gen Juan Sanchez Gonzalez noted that a study is being conducted to readjust the prices of other fuels. The minister announced that the country's present oil production amounts to 165,000 barrels a day and that with this production the country has obtained self-sufficiency as far as this important resource is concerned. When asked about the possibility of Peru joining the OPEC, the minister said that he does not want to claim victory or to be sensationalist and that first we must produce more oil and only then could Peru's integration into that organization be considered.

The minister noted that negotiations are being carried out for the secondary recovery of oil in the La Brea and Parinas oil fields and mentioned the contract signed with OCCI-BRIDAS, all of which will contribute to a significant increase in our oil production. General Sanchez made these statements to the news media at the Jorge Chavez International Airport shortly before going to Arequipa to represent President Morales Bermudez at the celebration of that city's 438th [as published] anniversary.

The minister said that PETROPERU [State Petroleum Agency] will not have a deficit this year thanks to a study carried out by a commission. Minister Sanchez said that PETROPERU's deficit up to last year amounted to 33.5 billion soles, not the between 40 and 50 billion soles "as a local magazine has reported."

He explained that with the elimination (as of 15 May of this year) of fuel subsidies and with the renegotiation of short-term debts, among other measures, the deficit problem of that state enterprise will end.

Minister Sanchez also referred to the public employees rationalization law which was recently decreed, noting that this measure is part of the economic reactivation process in the country.

After noting that his ministry is issuing the necessary orders to comply with that decision, the minister announced that as part of the rationalization program, the INIE (Energy Research and Electrical Engineering Services Institute) will form part of ELECTROPERU [Peruvian State Electricity Enterprise] and the Geology and Mining Institute (INGEOMIN) will merge with the Scientific and Technological Mining Institute (INCITEMI). The minister categorically stated that none of the enterprises in his sector will go to the private sector.

CRITICA SUPPORTS PANAMANIAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA

PA211859Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 21 Aug 78 pp 8, 19 PA

[Luis Restrepo R. article: "Namibia, A Challenge to Mankind"]

[Excerpts] During the inaugural ceremonies in the Dominican Republic, an important international meeting took place between Panamanian Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos H. and U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Andrew Young.

The meeting, held at the initiative of the American official, was intended, according to news reports released later, to inform the Panamanian Government leader extensively and in detail on efforts to make South Africa abide by UN resolutions on decolonization of the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia and to find a peaceful solution to the problem.

According to the same international news reports, Ambassador Young suggested to the Panamanian Government leader, the possibility of analyzing our country's participation as a UN member in the making of appropriate decisions to achieve Namibia's independence peacefully. These measures include possible participation by the Panamanian National Guard in organizing the peace forces which the world body plans to deploy to that region as guarantor of the political transition toward the formation of a black majority government in an independent Namibia, free of the oppressive colonialism which has exploited it for years.

Ambassador Andrew Young's request for Panama to participate in the plan for peaceful transition to an independent Namibia has historic roots because Panama is a country which has waged and is still waging a tenacious anticolonialist struggle.

Panama's contribution by assigning a National Guard contingent as part of UN peace forces means that our country has acquired a meaningful international stature; it is a respected country that is considered capable of acting with objectivity in the field of international relations and of supporting the self-determination of peoples.

It is also in line with Panama's realistic, imaginative and dynamic international policy. This fearless diplomacy has gained our country the support of all nations, including Namibia, whose representatives in the Organization of African Unity approved all resolutions of support which the African world issued during Panama's struggle for complete sovereignty.

Panama's presence in Namibia would strengthen our cause internationally and portray an international image of our country as a peaceful nation, a defender of the rights of peoples bent on anticolonialist struggle and the peaceful solution of world problems.

It is a numane commitment which should be accepted. If it is, Panama will participate actively in finding formulas for the independence of a country that has been subject to the most brutal repression and racial discrimination.

MATUTINO COMMENTS ON DELEGATION'S VISIT TO EASTERN EUROPE

PA211915Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 19 Aug 78 p 4A PA

[Editorial: "Visit to Socialist Europe"]

[Text] The mere announcement that a Panamanian Government delegation has left on a tour of Eastern Europe may create an impact bordering on terror among the many who have been accusing the present administration of displaying blatently communist tendencies.

Those who feel this way have not stopped to think that the leading countries connected with the philosophical-political creed characteristic of democracies not only maintain normal diplomatic, commercial and cultural relations with communist countries, but also accept within their political structures legally recognized communist parties that exhibit the gamut of that ideology and enjoy total freedom of action.

There are a number of reasons for this. The principal reason must be the one that leads us to think that if our democratic system of living is good, attractive and comfortable in such a manner that within it a man can act as he pleases and as suits his aspirations, then there should be no reason to forbid that same man from looking in from the threshold or conducting a thorough study of other ideologies and lifestyles. And if those systems--be they socialist, communist or totalitarian--are no better than ours, it is logical to assume that the more a man becomes familiar with them, the more he will reject them. After all, virtue does not mean ignorance of evil. Rather, it means a knowledge of it, which permits us to avoid, correct or eradicate it.

For a country such as Panama, which will be shortly facing the commitment of the canal and which seeks the objective of guaranteeing its security through a policy of effective neutrality that will lead to friendships scattered throughout the planet, for a country that seeks to render services and benefits to all men, the world offers multiple opportunities for commercial, financial, technical, scientific, educational and cultural exchange. And the world that offers that large panorama of possibilities is not enclosed within certain limits, framed within certain molds or labeled in certain ways. It would, therefore, be childish if not totally absurd on our party to try to exchange benefits without first establishing a bridge of communications. It would be as if we sought to give and receive while denying others the chance to talk to us or be heard.

In Panama's case, it is necessary to strengthen our democratic roots through all our means of education and action. More and more [we must] instill within the spirit of our present and future generations the irreplaceable concepts of fatherland, home, family, God.

With them deeply rooted in our personality as a nation, we will be able to hold a dialog with men of all other ideologies so they may know us and we may know them; so we may benefit from them and they may benefit from us.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS TO BE APPROVED IN SEPTEMBER

PA1920137 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 19 Aug 78 PA

[Text] The amendments of the National Constitution which were drawn up by the high-level commission will be completed shortly. Once they are finished they will be presented to the National Legislation Commission, which will give them to the National Assembly of Corregimiento Representatives to be duly discussed.

The amendments will subsequently be discussed by each provincial coordination council and, in the last week of September, the 505 corregimiento representatives will meet to again consider in plenary session these changes which will give the country's political life a new orientation.

The amendments to the Constitution were proposed by Chief of Government Gen Omar Torrijos in his tour of Panama which ended on 4 August.

MATUTINO VIEWS REPUBLICAN PARTY, HIGH-LEVEL COMMISSION

PA191930Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 17 Aug 78 p 6 A PA

["Conciencia Publica" column by Miguel Angel Moreno Gongora: "Republicans, High-Level Commission"]

[Text] The position the Republican Party [PR] has adopted regarding the political and institutional situation of the republic, as stated by its most important leaders and in communiques, represents a positive orientation because that party, with outstanding critical sense and patriotic responsibility, has correctly projected its views. This is the reason why responsible citizens and entities have stated their recognition of the national attitude of this party.

In July and in early August, the Republican Party issued communiques stating its civic convictions and reiterating its position faithful to its struggle for a complete return to the democratic institutionalization of the country. In both of these communiques, the PR unselfishly stated that the legalization of the parties, while important for a full democratic development, was not the most urgent need of the nation.

The Republican Party noted that in addition to the legalization of the political parties, there must exist a system by which the will of the people can be expressed by means of elections for president of the republic and for members of the legislative branch through direct, secret, universal and equal voting and that public power must be exercised in a situation where the legislative, executive and judicial branches work harmoniously but clearly separate. It is for this reason that the Republican Party demands that a genuinely democratic, representative and pluralist regime that will respect individual liberties and human rights be reestablished as soon as possible.

The Republican Party, however, does not fail to consider the possibility of forming part of a high-level commission that--with the participation of all the political parties and the government--will establish the legal formula that will permit the legal functioning of the political parties. The Republican Party is opposed to any idea, if there is such an idea, of the commission being nothing more than an adroit official attempt to delay the finding of the democratic solution that the country wants. It is for this reason that in a communique issued on 4 August, Friday, the PR called for "a calm and frank dialog for the purpose of restructuring, without hatred and without thoughts about future political retaliation, the institutional life of the republic with the participation of all the political parties."

The reservations and fears of the Republican Party with regard to the high-level commission are based on the possibility of the commission becoming a useless organization composed not only of the political parties but also a large number of other types of organizations that could sabotage important decisions or could become fifth columns to prevent any progress.

Some Republicans believe that the high-level commission composed of some ever-present civilians could become a tool to indefinitely postpone important democratic decisions by prolonging negotiations on political parties, a demagogic game they are willing to play. Another sector within the Republican Party can find no justification for participating in the high-level commission if it does not have the direct participation or the firm indorsement of the staff of the National Guard, the institution that has the power to take definite decisions on behalf of the present regime.

It would be timely for the Republican Party to publicly speak frankly about these aspects and to state its desire to participate in the high-level commission with the National Guard staff, just as the Christian Democratic Party has done with absolute sincerity.

I think that any hesitancy to express a desire to initiate meetings with the National Guard staff is unjustified since it is no political sin to admit that the power of decision in fundamental matters resides in the staff which moves the armed hand of the regime since the civilians are nothing but tools that can be substituted and changed whenever it fits the interests of the military chiefs.

If I am right about my analysis of the Republican Party and its attitude toward the high-level commission, I think that their reservations and fears about the commission not being able to produce any specific results with the presence only of civilians--considering the ambiguous and unexpressive way in which they have been appointed and the authority they have been given--and without the high military command supporting it, are fully justified. Also, it must be taken into consideration that some of the civilians, judging from their contradictions and frequent arrogant actions challenging the political parties, apparently do not want to solve the institutional crisis despite the fact that perhaps this is what the staff chiefs--who are the ones to be judged by history--probably want.

With regard to the causes for distrust of those civilians without a firm commitment to change and without the authority to make decisions in the high-level commission, this is a good time to reiterate the idea that I wrote in this regard in a column published on 3 August. There I stated: "It appears that it is precisely those civilian groups that benefit from the present regime and who are also its eternal advisers and counsellors, who are less interested in finding a democratic way out of the institutional stagnation in the country because they see in this a threat to their accessibility to the benefits of the state."

Opposition Not Prepared for Talks

PA181813Y Panama City MATUTION in Spanish 17 Aug 78 p 6A PA

["Juzgue el Pueblo" column by Ricardo Lince]

[Text] In view of the announcement that the high-level commission appointed by the national government to coordinate the functioning of political parties will meet with representatives of these parties or groups next week, we present the reader with some substantial observations on a question which is very important for the democratic normalization of the country.

Two political groups will meet at the negotiations table. One is the revolutionary government, which has controlled power for 10 years, and the other is the opposition, which up until a few months ago was inactive.

The revolutionary movement will attend the high-level meeting with a new political structure of government, ratified by the Constitution and the laws, and the product of continuous consultation, polls, analysis and criticism on the part of all popular sectors that have supported the revolutionary government. The system has rested upon democratic consultation which promotes changes.

This attitude of democratic and constructive criticism, which has become a built-in mechanism of defense, permitted revolutionary leaders to perceive the popular will and the reforms needed to make the system more operational and functional and, consequently, more democratic. The two most outstanding reforms are the granting to the legislative branch of its traditional functions adapted to the national reality, and the functioning of national political parties.

In contrast, leaders of the opposition groups have not been in contact with their followers, who were only recently the object of attention to organize cadres and fill empty slots in order to stage emotional mass mobilizations.

Let it not be said that they were prevented from doing this by a fierce dictatorship but simply that they did not strengthen their political rights because they did not exercise them. These things are not requested, they are conquered.

Consequently, the opposition will go to the negotiations table without having made any preliminary soundings and much less consultations with their supporters. They are an old cadre of leaders only somewhat affected by illness and death, who persist in the traditional failing of maintaining control from above, without listening to the voices of the young, with their new thoughts, or the vigorous countryside organizations, or the labor sector. They will be there with a fictitious representation, a pyramid that is imposing on the outside but hollow on the inside because it lacks genuinely popular ideological support.

PANAMANIAN OFFICIALS DENY LOCAL FLAG SHIPS ACCIDENT PRONE

PA191759Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 18 Aug 78 PA

[Text] The general directorate of consulates and ships of the Finance Ministry today denied complaints made by sailors unions in Colon concerning security conditions on Panamanian flag vessels. According to officials Rigoberto Davila, Ivette ng Diaz [as received] and Francisco Lamparero, maritime accidents do not involve 90 percent of the ships, as charged by the unions. They conceded that the Panamanian merchant fleet is not in top condition but that, according to available statistical information, the figure is only 22 percent. The officials said that the problem of marine accidents is very complex and that these involve technical as well as human factors, in addition to acts of God.

They emphasized the decision to adopt security measures that will guarantee the fulfillment of national as well as international regulations on Panamanian flag ships.

Finally, the officials said that the consular and ships directorate is trying to establish an accident investigation program in coordination with the maritime security office in New York in order to determine the principal causes of accidents which occur on Panamanian flag ships.

TORRIJOS SAYS PARTY TO ASSURE PROCESS CONTINUITY

PA192007Y Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 19 Aug 78 pp 24, 19 PA

[Article by Carlos J. Nunez L., special correspondent]

[Excerpt] Santo Domingo--A political party must be organized to assure the irreversibility of the political process initiated on 11 October 1968. I do not care if I am president or chief of government. What matters is that with or without Torrijos measures are taken to make sure that the popular conquests are not overthrown by the same sectors who placed us against the people before 1968, a sector consisting of a small circle of vested interests. These statements were made by General Torrijos at a meeting of the deans of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo especially convened by rector Dr Antonio Rosario. A few minutes before, in the name of the university, the rector presented Torrijos with a large number of the latest publications of the oldest university in the American continent.

Torrijos emphasized that the new 505 corregimiento representatives were conscious of their new duty of strengthening a process which substantially improved the living conditions of the most humble Panamanians. He added "there is still much to do and the party we are organizing should assure, always with a good dose of common sense, that which is essential--the continuity of the process."

EL SALVADOR

NEWSPAPERS AGREE TO PUBLISH GUERRILLA MANIFESTO

PA220355Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0235 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 21 Aug (AFP)--The two principal newspapers of this capital, DIARIO DE HOY and PRENSA GRAFICA, have agreed to publish in their Tuesday issues a communique by the clandestine group which last week kidnaped Kjell Bjork, an executive of the Swedish Ericsson Company.

This is one of the conditions which the Armed Forces of National Resistance (FARN) had set for releasing the engineer, who was kidnaped on 14 August as he was leaving his office in this capital. The kidnapers had maintained total silence until last Saturday, when they established contact with the Ericsson offices in San Salvador for the first time.

The guerrillas are also demanding that their manifesto be published in the principal newspapers of Venezuela, Panama, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Sweden and Japan. It was learned that the document contains a socioeconomic and political analysis of the situations prevailing in El Salvador, several Latin American countries, and Japan.

Meanwhile, the Swedish Government has instructed Ambassador Arne Helleryd--who is assigned to Guatemala but also serves as ambassador to El Salvador--to come here to participate in negotiations with the guerrilla group if necessary. The ambassador told AFP that Bjork is not affiliated with the Swedish Government but that as a citizen he deserves his government's concern. The diplomat declined to say whether the kidnapers had also made monetary demands.

It has been reported unofficially in this capital that the guerrilla group is also demanding $4 million in cash, a portion of which is to be paid in Salvadoran and Mexican currency.

In addition, it is known that Bjork, 37, who is married with one child, has an intestinal illness for which he should be taking medication regularly.

For the newspapers to publish the guerrilla manifesto, the Ericsson Company had to obtain permission from the Government of El Salvador because this country has a ban on the publication of such material.

GUATEMALA

DEFENSE UNITS GIVE MEDICAL CARE TO BELIZEANS

PA220421Y Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0030 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Nearly 3,000 patients, mostly Belizeans, were treated during a medical tour from 11 through 13 August at Melchor de Mencos, in El Peten, by National Defense Ministry units with the cooperation of [words indistinct].

According to the statistics revealed after the tour, 25 medics who participated in the activity attended 2,700 patients, mostly from Belizean communities near Melchor de Mencos.

The officer in charge of the group, Col Jorge Reyes Porras, reported that the patients were provided with the required medicines while those who needed more attention were transferred by military planes to Guatemala City hospitals for treatment.

Colonel Reyes Porras expressed his satisfaction over the response of the Belizean community to this effort by the armed forces to take care of their health problems [words indistinct]. Colonel Reyes Porras said their efforts included cases related to traumatology, orthopedics, dental surgery, and many others.

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT SAID WILLING TO COOPERATE AGAINST SUBVERSION

PA201953Y Tegucigalpa EL CRONISTA in Spanish 15 Aug 78 pp 1, 5 PA

[Excerpts] Lt Col Diego Arturo Landa Celano, secretary of state for defense and public security, has said that the military government junta will call elections to choose the country's leading officials on the established date and that it is willing to cooperate with neighboring countries to bring subversive activities of clandestine leftist groups under control.

"With the people's security and the most sacred national interests in mind, the regime is willing to continue attending forums convened by the Central American Defense Council (CONDECA), an organization in charge of fashioning alternate strategies to check the activities of groups opposed to the sacred principles of the democratic system."

Concerning comments about the existence of a bill intended to control the news, the defense secretary said that "I have no official information on this. Our activities are not aimed in that direction, but we want to drive home the fact that some news runs counter to national security. Sometimes news is published which I do not think should leak out of the country, and this is precisely what is being sought, to keep it from being disclosed internationally..."

NICARAGUA

ENVOY TO COSTA RICA DENOUNCES FSLN OPERATIONS

PA211233Y Managua NOVEDADES in Spanish 16 Aug 78 p 5 PA

[Letter from Ambassador to Costa Rica Juan Bautista Lacayo to NOVEDADES, also published by LA PRENSA LIBRE of San Jose, Costa Rica]

[Text] I read with due attention the LA PRENSA LIBRE editorial of 5 August 1978 entitled "Mistaken Nicaraguan Attitude." The editorial referred to the protest the Nicaraguan government presented to the Costa Rican Government as a result of the latest terrorist attacks carried out by the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) on the Nicaraguan border towns of Los Sabalos and El Castillo.

I do not want to go deeply into the matter, but I do think it is suitable to point out certain things. The Nicaraguan Government does not need confidential information to have a basis for its protest simply because the Costa Rican news media themselves and international news agencies have given broad coverage to statements by Costa Rican Sandinist leader Plutarco Hernandez Sancho in which he flatly admits his personal participation in many FSLN terrorist attacks against objectives on Nicaraguan territory. Hernandez Sancho admitted that he planned and organized those attacks on Costa Rican soil.

Is there any need for more evidence than Hernandez Sancho's confession that "Costa Rica, from several points of view, is our bulwark...since it makes it possible for us to train comrades?" Hernandez Sancho told the Costa Rican news media after his arrest on 11 April of this year that the terrorist training school uncovered by Costa Rican authorities in Desamparados "is used to plan war actions carried out in Nicaragua.... Because of special circumstances we use Costa Rica's territory to secretly train our cadres."

Regarding the Sandinist attack on the San Carlos, Nicaragua, police headquarters in October 1977, he said: "I planned and directed the attack. Under heavy fire from the army, I directed the retreat of the fighters....We had to retreat to Costa Rican territory."

This and similar statements by Costa Rican Sandinist leader Plutarco Hernandez, which are strong evidence of his direct participation in the actions denounced by the Nicaraguan Government, were given wide coverage by Costa Rican and international media. The editorial written does not have to consult LA NACION of 14 April, or LA PRENSA LIBRE of 23 and 24 May, or LA REPUBLICA of 2 June of this year. [sentence as published]

In addition to this, the statements by Costa Rican Hernandez Sancho have been fully confirmed by other members of the FSLN captured in Nicaragua and by peasants who were forced by Sandinists to go to Costa Rica to receive military training. Some of them have deserted and told Nicaraguan authorities about Sandinist activities in Costa Rica. They informed them in particular about the so-called Benjamin Zeledon South Front, which Plutarco Hernandez claims to have under his command and to which he must have been referring when he stated: "My organization carried out those attacks." Hernandez made this statement during an interview on 27 July 1978 with Telenoticias in connection with FSLN terrorist attacks on the Nicaraguan border towns of Los Sabalos and El Castillo, which motivated my government's protest.

It is worthwhile to point out that the Costa Rican Government has publicly stated that it will not allow persons invoking their "political exile" status to abuse the asylum that Costa Rica has generously given them and carry out activities in open violation of the commitment they accepted when asylum was given.

These open violations of their obligations are the reason for the unfortunately frequent incidents that have arisen between Nicaragua and Costa Rica. Thanks to the good will of the two governments these incidents have not weakened the close friendship between the two sister nations.

If the Nicaraguan Government finds itself forced to denounce the activities of Sandinist elements who are compromising Costa Rica's neutrality, it does not do so with the aim of having these protests turn into a "systematic campaign" against Costa Rica or to "arouse contrary feelings in the Nicaraguan people," as the editorial writer of LA PRENSA LIBRE apparently believes. It does so precisely because Nicaragua, above any other consideration, wants to maintain harmonious and good relations with Costa Rica, with which "it is united by ties of brotherhood based on a historic and social origin that will be stronger than any merely transient political regime," as the editorial writer states so appropriately.

Nicaragua is the object of an international conspiracy inspired by Marxism-Leninism. The goal is to impose a communist regime in our country. The FSLN has never hidden its Marxist-Leninist ideology or its objective. In this regard Plutarco Hernandez (who once said: "When I return from Moscow I will remain in Nicaragua clandestinely") has stated: "We are and will continue to be a political and military organization and we will never go to elections. If any of our groups accepts an election in 1981 we will consider it our enemy just as we will consider as our enemy, and will wage war on, all those who lend themselves to that process" (LA PRENSA of Managua in its edition of 25 May 1978). The terrorist action carried out last week against Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Dr Julio C. Quintana, a great Liberal leader, is evidence of the tactics announced by the Costa Rican leader of the Sandinist front.

That action fortunately failed. Persons such as Dr Quintana are the leaders who can find peaceful and civic solutions for the country because of their moral and intellectual worth and because of their deep roots in the Nicaraguan nation, but that kind of man is an obstacle to communist goals and designs and he becomes a candidate for physical elimination.

The open confession of this tactic should be enough to open the eyes of those who still believe the FSLN is fighting to bring "democracy" to the country and to give liberty to our republic. It is truly tragic and sad to have to admit that this "wolf in sheep's clothing" is winning supporters among those who in good faith believe in democracy and in spiritual and Christian values of our civilization.

I thank you for publishing this letter and I want to take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate my respect and appreciation.

[Signed] Juan B. Lacayo

UNREST CONTINUES; THREAT OF GENERAL STRIKE EXISTS

PA220002Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2211 GMT 21 Aug 78 PA

[By Horacio Ruiz]

[Excerpts] Managua, 21 Aug (AFP)--The Broad Opposition Front [FAO], which includes the top political opposition organizations in the country, today released a 16-point plan for the immediate installation of a national government in Nicaragua. It was learned that the proposal calls for removing Gen Anastasio Somoza from the presidency and placing the army under the control of officers not related to him. It was also reported that, at any moment, the FAO will begin a general strike to force Somoza to accept its plan.

The possibility of a new strike is uncertain due to the drop in sales and the enforcement of new consumer and income taxes decreed a few days ago, which has worsened the economic situation in the country. Many business establishments hesitate to confront the government once again in a struggle which, if they should lose, would represent economic suicide. The government is still reacting forcefully to the outbreaks of violence which continue to occur throughout the country. Today the army again closed down the opposition radio station "Mi Preferida," accusing it of broadcasting subversive propaganda a few hours after it returned to the air following the completion of an earlier 2-month suspension.

On another front, soldiers are patrolling hospitals in an attempt to break the strike of paramedical personnel who are demanding a 55-percent wage increase. The strike began exactly 1 month ago today. Workers who have accepted the 16-percent increase the government is willing to grant are admitted to the hospitals under military protection.

Some businessmen are continuing to refuse to pay the new taxes through which the government hopes to collect $50 million before the end of the year to face a budget deficit caused by the political-economic crisis which has been affecting the country for the past 10 months.

The government, however, said collection of the taxes from the majority of business establishments is taking place normally, and ordered that inspectors be sent to force recalcitrant businessmen to pay.

Newspaper reports said today that many persons from different social levels have begun making plans to leave the country, beset by the economic crisis and the prolonged tension enveloping the country.

CASTRO EXPLAINS NEGLECTED TIES WITH LATIN AMERICA

PA220346Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0222 GMT 22 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 21 Aug (EFE)--Cuban Council of State President Fidel Castro said that although he has not forgotten the Latin American countries, "what has happened is that Africa needs us much more." The Cuban revolutionary leader made this statement to a correspondent from the Bogota EL ESPACIO, who managed to interview Castro in Havana. "I never forget Latin America. What is more, I would like to be closer to you, but what has happened is that Africa needs us much more," Fidel Castro said.

The revolutionary leader also explained that when he mentioned China in a speech he was also indirectly referring to Carter and the United States. "I would rather not have mentioned China in my speech on the anniversary of the Moncada Barracks attack, but it so happens," he said, "that China is hampering the efforts of Vietnam, Angola and all the countries defending their rights."

Castro, who during his interview with the Colombian reporter was pleasant and cordial, abstained at times from being specific on international questions.

PEOPLE CONGRATULATED FOR YOUTH FESTIVAL BY FIDEL

FL211537Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 21 Aug 78 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers and first secretary of the PCC Central Committee, has sent a congratulatory message to our people on the occasion of the successful celebration of the 11th World Youth and Students Festival. The message states: A deep and justifiable feeling of satisfaction has remained with the people, who considered the festival as their own and worked for it with impressive dedication and love.

Fidel emphasizes in the congratulatory message that the delegations that have returned to their countries have vividly described their impressions of the extraordinary success of the festival, the magnificent organization with which it was characterized and the unforgettable welcome they received from the Cuban people and youth.

Further on, Fidel says that the festival was the result of the effort by countless persons. In this regard, he mentions the international preparatory committee and the youth, political and social organizations of numerous countries, particularly those of the socialist community. For almost 3 years our workers, students, combatants and people in general were mobilized under the banners of the 11th festival, Fidel adds in the message. The powerful emulation movement inspired by the festival was translated into an important push for the country's economic development and fulfillment of the political, educational and social tasks of the reovlution, Fidel states in the message addressed to our people.

After highlighting the fund-raising contributions and creation of the "friendship chest," Fidel emphasizes in the message that thousands of workers and young students, and even a large contingent of our children, worked for or directly participated in the festival. The people were responsible for the emotional inaugural spectacle at the Latin American stadium, says the message in one of its paragraphs. And it adds that by their disciplinary and exemplary behavior the people showed the visitors vivid proof of the just, united and fraternal human community which the socialist revolution has forged in our fatherland.

The 11th festival has been the work and triumph of all, Fidel emphasizes in the message, and the success achieved fills us with joy and optimistic confidence in the future. And the message concludes: Our greetings and our best congratulations go today to our generous and magnificent people who have just victoriously completed this event.

RAUL CASTRO PRAISES MEMBERS OF GUERRILLA COLUMN

FL211546Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 21 Aug 78 FL

[Text] Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the party and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR), has sent a message of congratulations to the combatants who were members of the Abel Santamaria 17th column. The message was sent on occasion of the 20th anniversary of the creation of that guerrilla force. The message states that the 17th column was one of the most important units in the Frank Pais Eastern Front and that it performed with honor the difficult missions it was assigned against the Batista tyranny. The message signed by our party's second secretary underscores the determination and capability with which this guerrilla force was led by comrades Antinio Enrique Lusson, chief of the column, and Raul Menendez Tomassevich, Filiberto Olivera and Abelardo Colome Ibarra, who were company commanders.

The congratulatory message from Army Gen Raul Castro was read by Jose Ramon Balaguer, member of the PCC Central Committee and party first secretary in Santiago de Cuba, at the ceremony which marked the end of commemorative activities for the 20th anniversary of the 17th column.

COOPERATION WITH ANGOLA IN HIGHER EDUCATION TO INCREASE

FL181030Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Aug 78 FL

[Text] Cuba will increase its cooperation with Angola in the field of higher education, Cuban Higher Education First Vice Minister Benito Perez Maza has announced in Luanda. Perez Maza is paying an official visit to that South African country.

FOREIGN MINISTER MALMIERCA DEPARTS GENEVA TO RETURN HOME

FL191637Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1612 GMT 19 Aug 78 FL

[Text] Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca has begun his trip to return to Cuba after having participated at the Geneva conference to combat racism and racial discrimination. The world conference that is meeting in the Palace of Nations in Geneva should conclude its work of 25 August with the adoption of a final declaration and an action program.

BRIEFS

NEW AGRICULTURAL PLANE--The savannas of Camaguey were overflown by a new Polish agricultural prototype plane which CEMA is putting through its testing phase to study its future use in tropical countries. This prototype, called "PSL-106A," is used in applying herbicides, insecticides and fertilizers. The tests which will go on through November, with the participation of Polish and Cuban pilots, follow the experiences obtained in cold and dry climatic zones. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 Aug 78 FL]

PRESIDENT GUZMAN REPLACES POLICE DEPARTMENT HEADS

PA200040Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2209 GMT 19 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 19 Aug (EFE)--Acting on orders from President Antonio Guzman, national Police Chief Robinson Brea Garo today ordered the replacement of all national police departmental heads. Yesterday Brea Garo replaced the four Dominican zone commanders. Today he replaced the heads of the secret service, homicide, narcotics, jails and city departments.

AIR FORCE CHIEF DENIES POSSIBILITY OF COUP

PA181543Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0311 GMT 18 Aug 78 PA

[Excerpts] Santo Domingo, 17 Aug (AFP)--The new air force chief of staff today dismissed the possibility that the military will embark upon activities which could result in a coup d'etat against the new government installed yesterday. Maj Gen Segundo Alfredo Imbert McGregor asserted that he intends to institutionalize the air force and "dispel politics from the garrisons."

Imbert McGregor was appointed to his new post by President Antonio Guzman in his reorganization of the top echelons of the military institutions. Imbert McGregor admitted today that his appointment had surprised him, but he conceded that he was one of the colonels in the air force having the greatest seniority.

GENERAL WARNS AGAINST MILITARY REPRESSION

PA191707Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0038 GMT 19 Aug 78 PA

[Text] Santo Domingo, 18 Aug (AFP)--The new secretary of the Dominican Armed Forces, Lt Gen Rafael Adriano Valdez Milario, warned here today that he will "not tolerate repression" by the military of the civilian population. He reaffirmed his intention of keeping the military institutions out of politics. Valdez Hilario added that if cases of political persecution by men in uniform are proved, they will have to leave the garrisons. If they are enlisted men they will be discharged and if they are officers their withdrawal will be recommended, he said.

Valdez Hilario asserted that the general trend in Latin America is to reduce militarism in politics and government. "The examples being provided now in Ecuador, Bolivia, Argentina and Peru, where in past months a gradual evolution of the military regimes has been seen, illustrates what I say," General Valdez Hilario stated. He noted that "it has been recognized in those countries that democratic evolution leads to the existence of parties by which the citizens choose government leaders." He emphasized that the Dominican Armed Forces stay in their garrisons and are not involved in politics, and that "one of the best forms of military participation in public life is through civic action."

General Valdez added that the secretariat of the armed forces, conscious of the mission of the nation's military institutes at this time, states publicly for the tranquillity of the Dominican family that severe action will be taken against those responsible for abuses of persons and threats against private property. When those guilty of these deeds are members of the armed organizations there will be no mercy and as a result all charges involving uniformed men will be investigated, he asserted. "I am not disposed toward permitting political influence in armed institutions" and "my duty is aimed at professionalizing the military," concluded the high official of about 40 years' service in the army and the son of a former general of the police and armed forces.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

DAILY REPORT volumes are published Monday through Friday in both paper version (mailed daily) and microfiche version (mailed weekly). The annual subscription fee for the paper version within the United States, Canada, and Mexico is $150 for any one volume and $50 for each additional volume. This includes occasional supplements. In microfiche the fee is $100 for any one volume, $125 for two volumes, $150 for three, $200 for four, $250 for five, $300 for six, $350 for seven, and $400 for all eight volumes. Foreign subscriptions outside North America are available from appointed foreign dealers or from NTIS. For information contact NTIS. U.S. government officials may obtain subscriptions at no charge directly from FBIS. Phone 527-2368 (area code 703) or write P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013.

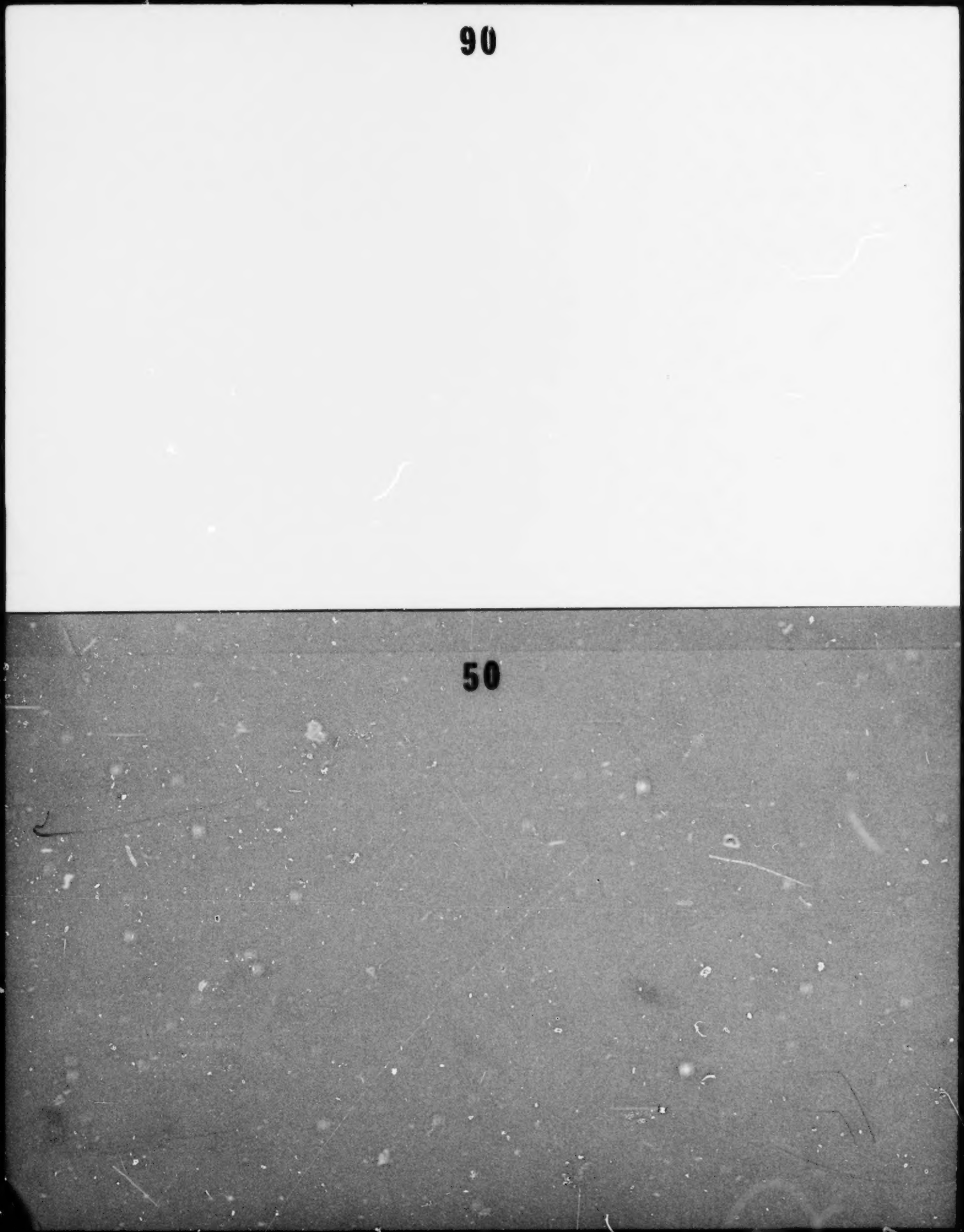
The volumes are: I - People's Republic of China; II - Eastern Europe; III - Soviet Union; IV - Asia & Pacific; V - Middle East & North Africa; VI - Latin America; VII - Western Europe; VIII - Sub-Saharan Africa. Back issues or single copies are not available. Allow 30 days for processing new subscriptions. Mail remittances, inquiries, and address changes to the NTIS address below.

Note: The publications of the Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS), which are sometimes cited in the DAILY REPORT, can also be ordered from NTIS in single copies or by subscription. In ordering, please cite the JPRS title, number, date and author if applicable.

Both the DAILY REPORT and JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at public and university libraries throughout the United States.

NTIS

National Technical Information Service
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Springfield, Virginia 22151


90
50